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Item 12 of the provisional agenda

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

Letter dated 1 February 1994 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights

Please find attached a letter sent on 31 January 1994 from Dr. Haris Silajdzic, Prime Minister of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, relating to the fiftieth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

(Signed): Mustafa'Bijedic
Ambassador

In regard to the session that started today I would like to inform you about the following:

During 22 months of the aggression on the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina Serbian occupying forces have, apart from known massive crimes and genocide against the Muslim population, committed and are committing ethnic cleansing in occupied Bosnian cities and regions using all possible means and methods. Unfortunately, regardless of all our warnings and appeals such situation is not improving, but worsening.

Serbian authorities, even before they began the aggression on the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, committed ethnic cleansing in the Sandzak region with a majority Bosniac-Muslim population, using such methods as threatening, imprisoning, murdering. This repressive politics of the Serbian regime continues and in recent days a number of prominent Bosniac-Muslims in this region have been arrested. Such repressive politics of the regime in Belgrade caused a great number of Bosniac-Muslims in the past few years to leave their homes and become emigrants. This process has not ceased, but is unfortunately continuing.

Furthermore, I would like to remind you that the process of ethnic cleansing of the city and the whole region of Banja Luka has lasted for 22 months when this city, which before the war had an absolute Bosniac-Muslim majority, was occupied. The world public has been informed that all Muslim sacral objects are razed to the ground and that 70 per cent of the Bosniac-Muslim population has been expelled. The process of forced moving out still continues.

Regardless of all condemnations and attempts to stop such practices, the Belgrade regime has not changed its repressive course in violating human rights, nor are there any signs that it will.

Please, act immediately and efficiently and do everything you can, including sending authorized representatives to Sandzak and Banja Luka to get authentic reports in order to inform the world community and undertake all necessary measures to stop violations of human rights and their protection in this and other regions.

(Signed): Dr. Haris Silajdzic